

201 Berry Vie Drive
Owings Mills, MD 21117

January 14, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I am a retired businessman. I had my own successful interior decorating firm for over thirty five years. It was done by working hard and staying ahead of the competition. One such company is Microsoft that succeeded in this manner and because of its success was targeted by the Department of Justice for an antitrust lawsuit. The lawsuit has now settled and I am writing to you to ask that you give your approval to this settlement.

I was against the suit from the start and never have never been able to understand the reasoning behind it. To me, Microsoft is a shining example for this great country. Here is a man who had a good idea, worked hard and succeeded. He is to be commend for his innovation and the way he does business, he keeps jobs and people working in this country not go overseas for cheap labor. His competitors could not keep up and cried foul, succeeding in clipping his wings to some extent, since they could not keep up on an even playing field. No one took Henry Ford to court for being to smart.

Do not let small mind prevail in this matter. Give your support to the Microsoft settlement and let's get back to business. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eagle', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Irwin Eagle